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FOCUS

ON INDIANA LIBRARIES

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in the interests
of its members and its work

Volume VIII, Number 3 September, 1954

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FOCUS ON INDIANA LIBRARIES

a Publication of the
INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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In 1947 the Indiana Library Association began the publication of a news sheet, FOCUS ON INDIANA LIBRARIES. The function of this periodical was to report on I.L.A. committee projects in progress and to serve as a clearing house for news from libraries throughout the state, emphasizing such items as new methods being tested and special activities in community or reader service.

This is still the function of FOCUS. The editor receives notice from various sources as to some of these library activities. He, or she, is always glad to hear about projects in the beginning stages, well under way, or merely the germ of an idea which can be developed by several libraries in cooperation.

FOCUS News items, opinion, and suggestions may be sent to the editor at the Indianapolis Public Library, Indianapolis 4. Deadline for next issue is October 17.

SURVEY RECOMMENDED

The ILA-ILTA Joint Committee on Library Action, Lewis Naylor, Muncie, chairman, took action at its meeting on July 23 to recommend to the Boards of ILA and ILTA and the State Library that an expert survey of the library situation in Indiana be undertaken, with recommendations for future development of library service for all the people.

Harriet Carter, head of the Extension Division, State Library, outlined for the committee a survey procedure, including an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of all types of libraries, and a paid director of national repute. The proposals followed closely those advocated at the last A. L. A. midwinter meeting by the Library Development Committee of the Public Libraries Division, Lowell Martin, chairman. This committee stressed the importance of a cooperative survey by a state association and the state library.

The recommendation of the Action Committee proposes that the State Library provide $5,000, and that the two associations seek a like amount from within the state; possibly from a foundation.

The State Library Board, at its meeting July 26, acted favorably on the recommendation. This action was just in time to include the sum of $5,000 in the budget request for the Extension Division which will go to the State Legislature in January.

The Executive Boards of ILA and ILTA will act on the proposal at their next joint meeting preceding the state conference.

1954 STATE MEETING PLANS

The sixty-third annual conference of the Indiana Library Association will be held in Indianapolis on September 27, 28, and 29, 1954. An outline of the program arranged for the three days of this meeting is printed on pages 4 and 5. The editor thanks those responsible for the program for their cooperation in gathering this information during the vacation period of August, when state conferences seem very far in the future.

We are fortunate this year in having as our speaker at the dinner meeting on Tuesday, September 28, one of the chief promoters of the Statewide Bookmobile Project in our neighboring Kentucky. Mr. Harry Schachter, formerly a Louisville businessman, is now president and owner of the Banner-Whitehill Furniture Company in Indianapolis. Those who heard his address at the Friends of the Library luncheon at the 1954 A. L. A. conference in Minneapolis are most enthusiastic and urge Indiana librarians, trustees, and friends not to miss this opportunity to hear an expert on broadening library service.

ILA ADDS A COMMENT

The Indiana Library Association joins its voice in the chorus of pride in our newly-appointed Librarian of Congress. We applaud the wisdom of the government's choice and extend to Mr. Mumford our best wishes and assurance of our respect and support in his important endeavor.

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IN APPRECIATION

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the ILA Board at its meeting on July 12, 1954.

"The Indiana Library Association Executive Board wishes to thank Mrs. George Blair who served as the Association's choice on the State Library Board from 1941 to 1954. The board has heard of her decision to retire with much regret in view of the great service, devotion and skill given during her tenure. In representing library interests she has made a great contribution to library development in the state."

PROGRESS IN FOCUS

With this issue a new member is added to the staff of *FOCUS*.

Like nearly all periodicals, this one has been recipient of the complaint: "I paid my dues (or subscription); where is my copy of the magazine?" In the case of *FOCUS* the problem of maintaining a correct mailing list has been magnified because of a frequent shift in editing locale.

Since the printing and mailing of our association's periodical is now in the hands of an Indianapolis firm, the ILA Executive Board has authorized the appointment of a Circulation Manager, to be responsible for maintaining an ILA mailing list for *FOCUS* and other association business. This circulation office will have a permanent address, c/o 140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis 4, although the work of mailing will be done elsewhere and the Circulation Manager may be on the staff of another library.

The Circulation Manager will of course check frequently with the treasurer of ILA for names of members in good standing. However, accuracy in a mailing list depends on the cooperation of individual "subscribers" also. Please notify *FOCUS* Circulation Manager promptly whenever there is a change in your address, or if you believe there is an error in your address which should be corrected.

AN HONOR TO SOUTH BEND

Congratulations again to South Bend Public Library, on receiving for the second year in succession a John Cotton Dana publicity award for "excellent, well-rounded publicity at slight investment in cost, reflecting the influence of the community, and featuring radio, cooperation with community groups, spring book festival, and library recruitment."

An account of their Library Week activities last spring indicates the energy and imagination of the staff. The radio committee had special programs on all three of the radio stations, and arranged for a preschool story hour over TV on Sunday afternoon. Business firms cooperated in providing space for window displays advertising Indiana Library Week. An exhibit of manuscripts and original drawings by local writers drew considerable interest. Posters were distributed throughout the city, and "flyers" mailed to club presidents, churches, and schools.

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NEWS: PERSONNEL IN INDIANA LIBRARIES

(Appointments and resignations of Head Librarians are recorded in *Library Occurrent*)

Henry T. Murphy, Jr., has been appointed librarian at the Agricultural Experiment Station at Purdue. He comes to Indiana from New York, where he was librarian of the U. S. Department of Agriculture Animal Disease Laboratory at Plum Island.

James Martindale, formerly at the Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station library, is now Serials Librarian at Ball State College in Muncie.

Natalie Tinkham, of Ripon, Wisconsin, is the new bookmobile librarian at the LaPorte County Library. She received her master's degree in library science at the University of Illinois.

Daniel C. Morgan, recently on the staff of Louisiana parish libraries, has been appointed first assistant in the Extension Department, Gary Public Library.

Theodora Andrews, on leave of absence from the staff of Purdue University Libraries, has been awarded a graduate fellowship in library science at the University of Illinois.

Alice Stevens, formerly supervisor, work with children at Muncie Public Library, and an active member of ILA, is now director, work with children at the Public Library, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

WE NOTE WITH SORROW

Mrs. Bertha Gear, formerly on the staff at Marion Public Library, died on May 15. She had retired in September, 1953, after twenty-five years of service as Reference Librarian. Many ILA members will recall Mrs. Gear's excellent book reviews, often a special feature of District and State meetings.

Miss Leah Power, children's librarian at Warsaw Public Library, died on May 25. Member of one of the town's pioneer families, Miss Power had been in charge of children's work in the library for more than forty years.

Katherine Mohler, reference librarian, Muncie Public Library, has resigned this position to become assistant to the Librarian, A. L. A. Headquarters Library.

Eva Featherston has been appointed children's librarian, Anderson Public Library.

Among new staff members at Indianapolis Public Library are Jeanne Guthrie Mueller and Rosemary Mahon Glenn. Mrs. Mueller received her master's in library science from the University of Kentucky and has been a member of the staff of the Louisville Free Public Library. Mrs. Glenn is a graduate of the Library School at I. U. and was on the staff of Evansville Public Library and Evansville College.

Elizabeth Eaton, formerly chief librarian, VA Research Hospital in Chicago, has been appointed librarian at Mead Johnson Company in Evansville.

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ILA-ILTA C

September 27, 28, 29, Linc

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1954

Morning

10:00 Registration — Fourteenth Floor
Exhibits open for inspection

10:00 Executive Board Meeting, Indiana Library Association — Suite

10:00 Executive Board Meeting, Indiana Library Trustees Association — Suite

12:00 Luncheon Meeting, Joint Boards of ILA and ILTA

12:00 Junior Members Round Table Luncheon — Parlor A
Rachel Carlson, Gary Public Library, presiding
Speaker: Julia D. Bennett, Director, A.L.A. Washington Office

Afternoon

2:00 First General Session — Travertine Room
Speaker: Julia D. Bennett, Director, A.L.A. Washington Office
Additional program to be announced

Evening

6:00 Dinner Meeting open to all registrants and visitors, conducted by Special Libraries Association, Indiana Chapter — Parlor A
Morrison C. Haviland, Wabash College Library, presiding
"The First 'R'"
Rudolph R. Schreiber, Indianapolis

7:30 Small Public Library Groups — Travertine Room
Mrs. Dorothy Jones, Royal Center, presiding
"What Makes Them Last?"
Mrs. Miriam E. Mason Swain, Indiana author of children's books
Discussion of Small Library problems
Business session and election of officers

8:15 Medium and Large Libraries Round Table — Parlor A

8:15 College and University Libraries Round Table — Room 1309
Morrison C. Haviland, Wabash College Library, presiding
Panel discussion on "Periodicals: Their Selection, Indexing, and Receiving" by representatives of university, college, and special libraries

CONFERENCE

Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis

9:00 Square Dance — Travertine Room
Led by Marion County Rural Youth Association

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1954

Morning

7:45 Library School Breakfasts (excepting Indiana University) — Travertine Room

9:30 Indiana Library Association Business Meeting — Travertine Room
Harley Spencer, president, ILA, presiding
Committee Reports

9:30 Indiana Library Trustees Association Business Meeting — Parlor A
Mrs. A. H. Moeller, president ILTA, presiding

11:00 Adult Education Workshop — Travertine Room

11:00 ILTA Workshop for Trustees — Sample Rooms, 13th Floor

12:00 Luncheon open to all registrants and visitors, conducted by the Indiana Library Trustees Association
Mrs. A. H. Moeller, president ILTA, presiding

Afternoon

2:00 District Meetings Planning Committee — Suite

2:00 Children's Librarians Round Table — Travertine Room
Panel on Summer Reading Programs, conducted by Miss Bessie Glawe, East Chicago Public Library
Business Meeting

4:00 Staff Personnel Round Table — Parlor A

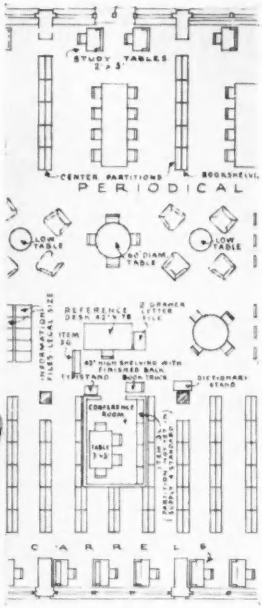
6:30 Second General Session, Dinner Meeting — Travertine Room
Speaker: Harry E. Schachter
"That All May Read"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1954

Morning

8:15 Indiana University Library School Breakfast — Hotel Warren

10:00 Joint Business Meeting, ILA-ILTA — Travertine Room
Reports of Joint Committees



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NEWS: LIBRARY SERVICES IN INDIANA

Add to the list of libraries planning to expand into new buildings in the near or in the more distant future, Purdue University and Anderson College.

Ground has already been bulldozed for the new library addition at Purdue. Two faculty members from the Engineering Department constructed scale models of the reading rooms in the new building, complete with tables, chairs, stacks and partitions so that the library planners can test the workability of layouts prepared in two dimensions.

This spring a citizens' committee organized a campaign to raise funds for the library at Anderson College. Nearly $250,000 was contributed or pledged. In a short while we should be hearing about plans for the new library building, which is to be named in honor of Charles E. Wilson, former General Motors official in Anderson, now U. S. Secretary of Defense.

Redecorating and "functional" remodeling are underway or recently completed in the public library buildings of Muncie, New Albany, Rushville, and Auburn. The Wanatah Public Library has recently moved into enlarged quarters in the town's new fire station building.

A weekly film program is one of the services offered by the public library in Evansville. Each Friday a film is presented at the noon hour and repeated in the evening, usually with a speaker discussing some related topic. A schedule of the films to be shown, with brief descriptive notes, is distributed each month to local business and industrial firms. Samples of these film notes may be obtained from Dorothy Eissler, Film Librarian, Evansville Public Library.

Indianapolis Public Library has inaugurated a series of lunch hour concerts on Wednesday and Thursday each week on the balcony at the Central Library. The high-fidelity record player used for these concerts is a memorial gift honoring Leonard A. Strauss, a founder of the Ensemble Music Society and of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

The report presented by Marianna Andres, chief of Circulation, Evansville Public Library, at the 1953 state conference has recently been published as number 39 of the *Occasional Papers,* University of Illinois Library School. The article, "Practical Aspects of Photographic Charging" describes and evaluates the system used at Evansville.

(Continued on Page 8)

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(Continued from Page 7)

Children in library communities throughout Indiana enjoyed a variety of reading club programs this summer. Librarians were ingenious in devising original projects and in concocting attractive displays on themes of perennial interest to juvenile readers.

"By Rocket to Adventure" was a timely topic in Connersville, Madison, and Elwood at least, and membership in the summer reading club placed your name on the space map. A Bookworm gradually took shape as successive green segments were added for each book report by children in Anderson, Cambridge City, Greenfield, Rising Sun, Royal Center, and Union City. At the Emeline Fairbanks Library in Terre Haute, a "super lifesize" model of a bookworm was exhibited in the children's room as an added attraction. In Crawfordsville, the classic theme of ranches and cowboys was followed in a "Reading Round-Up." New club members added their branded steers to a scale model of a ranch, complete to the least detail. At Kendallville, reading clubbers travelled by miniature automobile to our national parks, via a large scale map on display. Clowns and balloons of the circus drew crowds in Corydon, Linton, Greenwood, Lafayette, Alexandria, and Tell City. In Whiting and Marion, readers watched the progress of their toy cars along the course of a miniature Indianapolis Speedway.

For the closing festivities, special movie parties, in the local theater or in the library, were popular. At Lebanon, a sorority chapter provided a book prize for each winner of a reading club diploma.

There is no doubt that children in all these communities are enthusiastic readers during the summer, and that their librarians will turn up with equally clever themes next year.

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POSITIONS VACANT

From time to time *FOCUS* receives notice of a position available in an Indiana library. The editor is glad to list these "help wanted" ads in cooperation with the Division of Certification and Placement in the Indiana State Library, which offers a more extensive service.

WANTED—Reference librarian with L. S. degree and two years experience. Forty-hour week, month vacation, cumulative sick leave, state retirement, salary $3840-4320. Don't leave Indiana—just come to Muncie. Apply to librarian, Muncie Public Library..

STAFF NEWS BULLETINS

The first number of a new staff bulletin, *Pulse,* published by the staff of Purdue University Libraries, has recently been sent to the editor. The various staff papers published in Indiana libraries provide an interesting and reliable source of library news. *FOCUS* editor appreciates the fact that she is on the mailing list for three of these staff bulletins and would be glad to know of others.

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